

Salt Lake Valley Quality Improvement Committee Minutes

Attendees: Sharon Graser, Tonya Myrup, Marcella Rodriguez, Diane Moore, Misty Butler, Annette Jan, Carolyn Jensen, Peggy Jerome, Marilyn Johnson, Patricia Worthington, Cathy Haney, Staci Ghneim, Steve Leyba, Mike Hamblin, Chris Chytraus, Cheryl Dubach, Marilee Greenland (minutes)

Guests: Kristin Lambert, Kevin Jackson, Rachel Pratt, Marcella's daughter,

Excused: Misty Butler, Sharon Hughes, Carolyn Jensen, Teresa Jacobs

	Tuesday, June 16, 2009	Review and Action Plan	Follow-up
Dash Board Items:	Staff Retention and Recognition	(February 17, 2009)	
	CPS Missed Priority Timeframe	June: Red tags (24 hour response) were on call and now have workers available in each of the 12 teams on Fridays. What if any impact has the 4/10 made on time frames. Intake is open on Friday?	June: Tonya will bring report
	CPS Issues	(September 16, 2008)	
	Foster Care Placement Stability	May: Staci Ghneim shared with the committee the changes in placement staffing of cases. Mike Hamblin announced a new foster parent training. This training will assist foster parents to help TAL age youth prepare for aging out of care.	May:
	Drug Abuse	(January 20, 2009)	

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	Children served by the Court - Abused and Neglected vs. Delinquency	<p>April: Data reveals children entering custody for delinquency are not in care longer than children entering for abuse and neglect. It appears the age of the children entering custody is the reason they enter. When older children are ordered into custody for delinquency there is usually a higher level of care needed and the children change placements more often.</p> <p>Five-day assessments were explained as a time period DCFS is given by the court to evaluate the child and their family. DCFS then submits a report to the judge with their recommendations. The judge then has the responsibility to decide whether or not to order the child into custody.</p> <p>Delinquency is the reason half of the children come into custody. Delinquent children are usually brought into custody for not complying with court orders. Their crimes are not at a level to qualify for JJS custody.</p> <p>Workers in some offices concluded judges were not listening to their recommendations. The offices decided to send experienced workers who have good rapport with the judges to court; it seems to be working well.</p> <p>more relative for length of stay than children change placements more often.</p>	<p>April: QCR data will be presented when it is available.</p> <p>Other requested will be prepared.</p>

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		<p>Data can be pulled on all DCFS cases to review judge's decisions. We are not able to get information on all of the cases the judges have; that information is not available. QCR data will be available in two to three months and will be presented to the committee when it is available.</p> <p>DCFS workers do not have training for delinquency. Delinquent clients get the same services as abused and neglected clients. Workers have one or two delinquency cases on their caseload. DCFS still has family preservation; they are now clinical preservation permanency units. They now have larger caseloads than when they were family preservation units.</p> <p>It was suggested to compare the rate with other states and Regions. Northern Region is the closest in size to compare. They have half as many delinquent cases compared to Salt Lake Valley Region.</p> <p>How much emphasis is put into permanency? Recently, children have been invited to attend their care meetings to give input on their permanency. TAL's objective is to prepare teens for permanency.</p> <p>How many children go to JJS? What does JJS know about intervention to keep children in their homes? What diversion or in-home programs does JJS have?</p> <p>Is it possible the cause of delinquency is</p>	<p>It was identified that in the majority of the cases, the judge was accepting the recommendation of the DCFS worker on what should happen.</p> <p>Chris will ask OSR to separate at the older cases from the QCR to present that information if available at our June meeting.</p>

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		because of abuse or neglect? How many delinquent children later shared they were abused?	
	Children served by the Court - Abused and Neglected vs. Delinquency (continued)	<p>If a judge wants to have a delinquent child placed in DCFS custody, is it possible to have an in-home program instead of out-of-home placement? If they are not a threat to the community or not being abused, should children really be removed from their family of origin considering the trauma of being removed? How does it affect their behavior if they are removed because of behavior? How do children that are placed in a structured foster home transition back to a home and society that is unstructured? What are the outcomes for children that come into custody?</p> <p>Does it make a difference? What input or information could the committee give DCFS to support the Region either with advocacy or constructive criticism?</p> <p>The committee would like to look at how many children go back home, or other meaningful permanency vs. staying in care; delinquency vs. non-delinquency .</p>	
	Children served by the Court - Abused and Neglected vs. Delinquency (continued)		
		within timeframe – by closure reason cy2005 –	May:

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		<p>cy2008. Children don't have horrible crimes but only 36% return home. Abuse and neglect is 32% return home.</p> <p>The process of child coming into care for delinquency was explained. A child may come in custody from a five day notice (evaluation) or JJS referral (multi staffing meeting). Most of the other Regions are similar but at a smaller volume. SLVR does not seem to work as well with the courts as other Regions. The judges are accepting workers recommendations 70% of the time. After looking at the data it looks like the workers are suggesting custody. It was suggested to train the workers to evaluate which children are more appropriate for custody. There is a need to work with the judges as well as workers. One of the reasons is the budget. But the important part is the best services for the child and the parent Is custody the best recommendation for the child?</p> <p>There would be good insight if the parents were surveyed as well as the judges. What criteria are the judges using to chose how the children are treated in court?</p> <p>There is a need to engage parents in delinquency services the same way as with abuse and neglect. Most parents of delinquent children are relieved when they are removed. If we have the research to show how a child</p>	

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	Children served by the Court - Abused and Neglected vs. Delinquency (continued)	<p>does in residential placement and then the workers would have evidence to show the court to see if that child would be successful for residential placement or home would be better.</p> <p>Several suggestions were made to evaluate care in custody. The committee decided a survey of youth would be the best way to evaluate care.</p> <p>Our Region is getting more delinquency than other Regions. The committee proposed writing a letter to Staci to request Duane or the Table of Ten look at delinquency in SLVR.</p> <p>June: Data from "Referrals by disposition" handout was discussed.</p>	<p>Arn Stolp, Mike Hamblin, Sharon Graser, Cheryl Dubach and Patricia Worthington volunteered to prepare survey.</p> <p>Chris Chytraus will write a letter to Staci for the committee to look at this further in addition to providing education to the workers that the judge is considering their recommendations on the 5 day notice.</p>

	Children served by the Court - Abused and Neglected vs. Delinquency (continued)	Discussion of letter to DCFS	
Public Relations:		(February 17, 2009)	
Studies:		(March 17, 2009)	
QCR Participation:		<p>April: Chris Chytraus and Patricia Haslam were participating in a QCR today. The question was asked of the committee if anyone else has participated in a QCR?</p> <p>May: Carolyn Jensen participated in the QCR in Eastern this week.</p> <p>June: Carolyn Jensen mentioned that she had participated in a QCR. The question was raised again as to how many committee members had participated in a QCR?</p> <p>Kevin Jackson and Kristin Lambert from OSR shared the results of the last QCR in Salt Lake Valley. The level of participation in the community is high in Salt Lake Valley. Teaming and engaging were the two strongest strengths mentioned. The Region has done a great job!</p>	<p>April: No one else in the committee has participated in a QCR</p> <p>May:</p> <p>June: Misty Butler, Cathy Haney, Rachel Pratt, Marilyn Johnson, Patricia Worthington, and Diane Moore confirmed that they had participated.</p>
Fatality Review:		(September 16, 2008)	

<p>Other Business:</p>		<p>April: DWS is administering a summer intern project for young adults 18-24. There are 331 slots. This will be a meaningful work experience.</p> <p>May: Patricia Haslam was accepted a job offer in Los Angeles and has resigned from the committee. Mike Hamblin was approved to be the chairman elect. We still need a co-chairman elect.</p> <p>Staci Ghneim thanked the committee for their feedback. It has made changes in the way DCFS conducts business. Additionally, she shared the budgeting of SLVR. There are going to be cutbacks and may cause a “perfect storm”. There is no budget for home based services. SCF has gone up drastically and home based services have gone down dramatically. The federal government has made requirements to limit certain services to children only when they are in custody.</p>	<p>April: Committee members were offered brochures and posters to take back to their offices to advertise the program.</p> <p>May: If you are interested please contact Chris Chytraus.</p>
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